

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



366166

923313

I. HEADING

Date: September 12, 2000

Subject: Midland Machine Site, Decatur, Illinois

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POLREP: First and Final

II BACKGROUND

Site ID #: B5F7
Response Authority: CERCLA, Fund Lead
NPL Status: Non NPL
Start Date: 8/19/99
End Date: 8/16/2000

III. SITE INFORMATION

A. Incident Category- Removal Action

Site Description and Background

The Midland Machine site is located in a commercial area on approximately five acres of land situated between Brush College Road on the east and Illinois Route 48 on the West (See Figure 2). An environmental justice analysis (Attachment I) indicates a population of 1102 within a one mile radius of the site. This population is 42% low income with no minorities.

owns the property. He operates a small machine shop on the property and also lives there. obtains water from an onsite well and generates his own heat and electricity with a diesel generator which he fuels with bulk fuel. Before father died in 1983, his father used to collect waste oil and process it on this site in a cracker to make fuel for the generator. According to his father collected the drums which are now on site and then rejected them when he discovered that they did not contain waste oil. These

drums contain waste inks, waste solvent and some crankcase oil.

In 1993, IEPA overpacked the drums and randomly selected three drums for analysis. Analytical results indicated the presence of highly flammable material with a flash point of less than 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The analysis also revealed high levels of toluene and xylene.

IEPA identified two generators, Grigolet and the Decatur Herald, and notified them that they were potentially responsible parties. The Decatur Herald removed and disposed of several drums which contained waste ink. Grigolet has not removed any drums. In late 1998, IEPA filed a cost recovery action in federal district court against both the Decatur Herald and Grigolet. That action is currently in the discovery stage.

On August 19, 1999, the IEPA referred the site to USEPA. On September 9, 1999, USEPA and START conducted a removal site assessment. Region 5 randomly selected five drums for sampling and analyzed them for volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds (VOCs & SVOCs), poly chlorinated bi phenyls (PCBs), flashpoint, pH and metals. One soil composite was also analyzed for SVOCs, metals and PCBs. [REDACTED] onsite well was also sampled for VOCs, SVOCs, PCBs, pesticides and metals.

Results confirmed the presence highly flammable organic liquids with a flashpoint of less than 50 degrees Fahrenheit. This waste is characterized as a hazardous waste (D001) as defined under RCRA (CFR 261).

Approximately one hundred thirty drums remain on the Midland Machine property. These drums are in poor condition and some are leaking. The drums are staged on plastic and are located in a low area where surface water tends to accumulate. This area then drains to a drainage ditch along Brush College Road.

IV. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. Response Activities

Due to the poor condition of the drums containing highly flammable material an action memo was signed to perform a time critical removal action. Removal criteria included a potential fire and explosion hazard and a potential release to the environment. Decatur Herald and Grigolet were notified of their potential liability and offered the opportunity to perform a removal action. Grigolet submitted a proposal including a draft work plan. However, Grigolet elected to try to settle the ongoing lawsuit with the State of Illinois to perform the work. USEPA referred the site back to IEPA. Work began on August 15, 2000.

B. Next Steps

IEPA will oversee the work by Grigolet. USEPA is no longer involved.

C. Key Issues

None

V. COSTS

N/A

VI. DISPOSITION OF WASTE

N/A